

Remarks

The specification has been amended to cross-reference related applications as is required under United States patent law. This amendment does not add new matter to the application, and its entry is therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for substantive review. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a phone call may help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at (202) 419-7013.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

By Michael A. Sanzo
Michael A. Sanzo
Reg. No. 36,912
Attorney for Applicants

Date: November 17, 2003
1801 K Street, N.W., Suite 401L
Washington, DC 20006-1201
Phone: (202) 419-7013